promiscuous males and prostitutes were screened and out of them 764 were found to be HIV sero-positives including 29 full blown AIDS cases comprising of 18 Indian and 11 foreigners.

(b) Out of 764 HIV sero-positive individuals detected upto 31st January, 1989, 68 were blood donors and 9 were pregnant women. The majority of HIV sero-positive individuals belonged to two high risk groups namely—promiscuous males (197) and promiscuous women (310).

(c) The Indian Council of Medical Research has been entrusted with the responsibility for organising surveillance for HIV infection. In addition, the Council is also pursuing research on virus isolation.

(d) In order to prevent the spread of AIDS in India, the Government have planned the following activities:—

Surveillance for detecting HIV infection;

Testing of blood used for transfusion and ensuring safety of blood products;

Establishment of clinics for health check up and counselling in metropolitan cities;

Strengthening of STD Clinics in Medical Colleges/District Hospitals;

Development of medicare facilities for treatment of AIDS patients in identified major hospitals;

Training of medical/para-medical personnel in case management;

Intensification of health education activities as under:—

Health education to increase awareness among general public;

Health education in schools and colleges; and

Education and counselling of high risk groups as well as persons with HIV infection.

Retrenched and surplus Central Government Employees

1405. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Central Government Employees have either been retrenched or found surplus, in different departments since 1984 till date in all categories; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

National Investment Bank

1406. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that a number of vital economic issues such as to set up a National Investment Bank in place of the Planning Commission as recommended by Ratan Tata Committee has been deferred; and

(b) if so, what are the other economic issues that have been deferred and what are the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Suggestion for setting up of a National Investment Bank is under examination.

(b) The question as worded is too general for a precise answer.

Inadequate functioning of Cobalt units

1407. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several noted Radiotherapy experts have drawn